

## Message Text

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47 L

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 PM-07 DODE-00 L-03 DRC-01 /078 W

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R 171422Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9311

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 18075

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GW, GE, PGOV

SUBJECT: MORE ON BAHR'S APPEAL TO ALLIES RE GDR

THREATS AGAINST TRANSIT ROUTES

REF: BERLIN 2040

1. IN RECENT DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF, A CHANCELLERY SOURCE DESCRIBED THE BACKGROUND OF BAHR'S APPEAL TO THE ALLIED REPS IN BERLIN (REFTEL) CONCERNING GDR THREATS OF MEASURES ON TRANSIT ROUTES. OUR SOURCE SAID BAHR HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY CONCERNED THAT THE GDR IN FACT INTENDED TO TAKE SOME ACTIONS BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUING PROBLEM OF EXFILTRATION. TALKS WITH GDR REP KOHL IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER HAD BECOME QUITE SOMBER WHEN THIS EXFILTRATION ISSUE AROSE, AND BAHR FELT SOME MEASURES WERE IN THE OFFING.

2. BAHR APPARENTLY RAISED THE MATTER IN BERLIN FOR EFFECT AND EXPECTED TO FOLLOW UP IN BONN. //E HAD EARLIER TAKEN A SIMILARLY SOLEMN VIEW IN DISCUSSING THE MATTER WITH THE THREE AMBASSADORS (BONN L6744) BUT DID NOT AT THAT TIME ASK FOR STRONG ALLIED SUPPORT.

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FOR UNEXPLAINED REASONS BAHR DID NOT RETURN TO THE

SUBJECT AFTER HIS BERLIN VISIT. OUR CHANCELLERY SOURCE SPECULATED THAT BAHR AND HIS ADVISERS HAD LEARNED THAT FONMIN SCHEEL HAD NO INTENTION OF RAISING WHAT WOULD BE HYPOTHETICAL PROBLEMS AT THE QUADRIPARTITE DINNER. COMMENT: WE ARE OF THE VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO INDICATE TO THE SOVIETS THAT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE GDR MOVES (PARA 7 REFTEL). IF GDR AND SOVIETS ARE SET UPON DOING SOMETHING, WARNINGS ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES ARE NOT APT TO HAVE MUCH EFFECT.

3. OUR CHANCELLERY SOURCE EXPLAINED ALSO THE BACKGROUND OF BAHR'S MEETING WITH THE ALLIED REPS IN BERLIN. THE MEETING STEMMED FROM A RECOMMENDATION BY BAHR'S STAFF THAT HE REINSTITUTE MEETINGS WITH THE ALLIED REPS IN BERLIN. SUCH MEETINGS HAD BEEN FAIRLY COMMON IN PAST YEARS, BUT HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO FALL BY THE WAYSIDE IN THE LAST YEAR OR SO. NORMALLY, BAHR SHOULD HAVE CALLED ON THE THREE COMMANDANTS SOON AFTER THE BRANDT GOVERNMENT'S RE-ELECTION, AT LEAST IN THE VIEW OF HIS STAFF. BECAUSE OF THE BUSY PERIOD LAST WINTER, FOLLOWED BY BAHR'S LENGTHY ILLNESS, THIS DID NOT TAKE PLACE. HENCE THE NOVEMBER 29 MEETING WAS A BELATED EFFORT ON BAHR'S PART TO RE-ESTABLISH LOST CONTACTS. THE CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL THOUGHT THAT BAHR WOULD PROBABLY TRY TO CONTINUE SUCH GET-TOGETHERS WITH THE COMMANDANTS AND MINISTERS ON A FAIRLY REGULAR BASIS IN THE FUTURE.  
HILLENBRAND

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**TAGS:** PGOV, GE, GC  
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